

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EUR-12 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-02 MC-02

TRSE-00 XMB-02 /041 W
----- 033899

R 250851Z FEB 75
FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5509

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGUI 0255

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, CT
SUBJECT: CIVAIR: AIRCRAFT SALES PROSPECT FOR CAR

REF: STATE 40041 (NOTAL B. PARIS 4540 C. BANGUI 1455 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY INVITES ATTENTION TO STATE REFTEL AS EXAMPLE OF WHAT OFTEN HAPPENS IN CAR AIRCRAFT DEALS. IN ADDITION TO SPELLMAN RECENT HISTORY HAS INCLUDED ABORTED DEALS WITH CHARLES WILLIS OF GREAT ALASKA CORPORATION AND FIASCO OF PURCHASE OF DC-8 FROM AMERICAN AIRLINES IN LATE 1960'S. AVIATION MINISTER OTINA ALSO DISCUSSED PURCHASE OF SURPLUS MILITARY AIRCRAFT WHICH HE DISCUSSED WITH ME IN LATE DECMBER (BANGUI REFTEL) WHICH HE LATER DISCUSSED WITH AID OFFICIAL IN WASHINGTON.

2. MANY AIRCRAFT CONNECTIONS MADE BY ZEALOUS CAR EMBASSY PERSONNEL ABROAD IN COMBINATION WITH BUSINESSMEN OF UNPROVED REPUTATION. GOCAR OFFICIALS CORRECTLY PERCEIVE THAT ROUTE TO BOKASSA'S HEART AND FAVOR IS VIA AIRPLANE, AND PERSEVERE IN SPITE OF DEROGATORY OR OTHER INFORMATION DEVELOPED IN

COURSE OF INQUIRIES INDICATING THAT ACCESS TO PROMISED FINANCING UNCERTAIN.

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3. EMBASSY OF OPINION THAT CAR NOT PRESENTLY CAPABLE OF

PURCHASE OF BOEING 737 FROM OWN RESOURCES. THEREFORE FINANCING CRUCIAL TO SUCCESS OF ANY CONTRACT. PAST EXPERIENCE INDICATES THAT IT IS DIFFICULT FOR GOCAR TO SECURE FINANCING FROM REPUTABLE INSTITUTIONS. EMBASSY THEREFORE SUGGESTS UTMOST CAUTION IN DEALING WITH ENTREPRENEURS AND MIDDLEMEN WHO HAVE AIRPLANES FOR SALE TO GOCAR IN ORDER TO AVOID IMPLICATION OF USG SUPPORT AND FINANCING.

4. PAITEL UNKNOWN TO EMBASSY. KIRJNER IS FRENCH BUSINESSMAN WHO REGULARLY VISITS BANGUI. HE SEEMS TO BE FRIEND OF BOKASSA WHO NAMED HIM HONORARY CONSUL OF CAR IN LILLE FRANCE ON JUNE 26, 1973. KIRJNER IS GOOD FRIEND OF PRESIDENT'S SON GEORGE AND HE AND HIS CENTRAL AFRICAN WIFE ATTENDED GEORGE'S FEBRUARY 22 WEDDING AND FESTIVITIES. IN COURSE OF CONVERSATION AT WEDDING WITH EMBOFF KIRJNER CONFIRMED THAT HE HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED TO LOOK FOR BOEING 737 IN BEHALF OF GOCAR.

DALE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN INVESTMENT, AIRCRAFT, PROCUREMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BANGUI00255
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750066-0013
From: BANGUI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750216/aaaaaaofy.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 40041, 75 (NOTAL PARIS 4540, 75 BANGUI 1455
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <21 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: AIRCRAFT SALES PROSPECT FOR CAR
TAGS: EAIR, PFOR, CT, US, (SPELLMAN, J C)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006